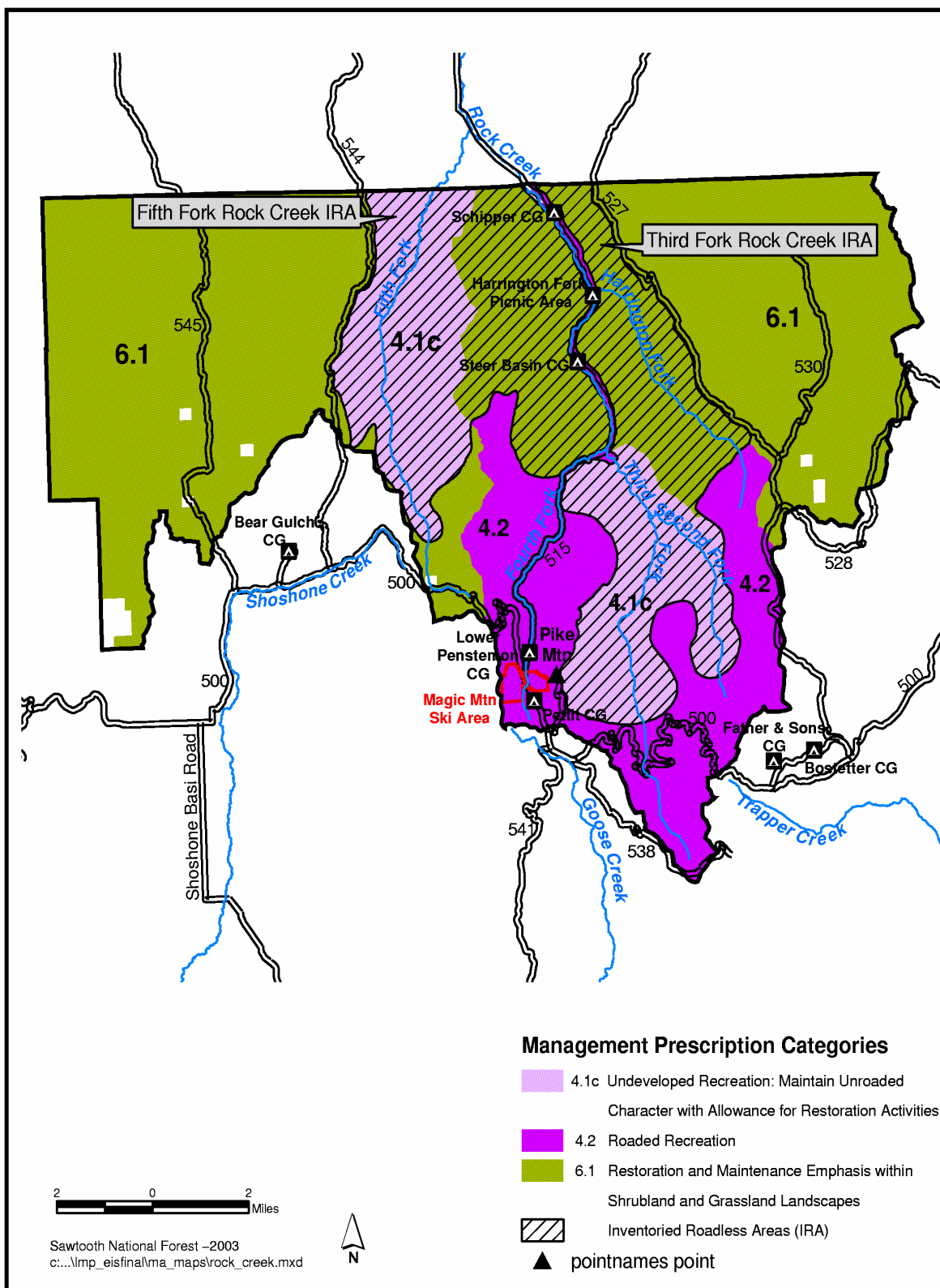


Management Area 11 – Rock Creek Location Map



Management Area 11 Rock Creek

MANAGEMENT AREA DESCRIPTION

Management Prescriptions - Management Area 11 has the following management prescriptions (see map on preceding page for distribution of prescriptions).

Management Prescription Category (MPC)	Percent of Mgt. Area
4.1c – Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	18
4.2 – Roaded Recreation Emphasis	17
6.1 – Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Shrubland & Grassland Landscapes	65

General Location and Description - Management Area 11 is comprised of National Forest System lands within the northern end of the Cassia Division on the Minidoka Ranger District (see map, preceding page). Known locally as “the South Hills”, the area lies in Twin Falls and Cassia Counties. The nearest large communities are Twin Falls to the northwest, and Burley to the northeast. The management area is an estimated 94,600 acres, including several small private land inholdings that make up less than 1 percent of the area. The area is bordered by Sawtooth National Forest to the south and east, and by primarily BLM administered land to the north and west. The primary uses in this area have been developed and dispersed recreation, livestock grazing, special uses (ski area, summer homes, outfitter and guides), and timber management.

Access - The main access to the area is the paved Rock Creek Canyon Road, Forest Road 515, which is an extension of County Road G3 out of Hansen, Idaho. The other roads in the area are native-surfaced and rough. Seasonal road closures have been recently implemented to protect resources and reduce deer vulnerability to harvest. The density of classified roads in the management area is an estimated 1.6 miles per square mile, and some of the unroaded canyons have trails. Total road density for area subwatersheds ranges between 0 and 4.0 miles per square mile.

Special Features - This area is known for its extensive rim-rock canyons. The Rock Creek Canyon corridor is a popular recreation area, featuring a variety of year-round opportunities, including the Magic Mountain Ski Area. The Rock Creek Canyon Road is also a Forest Service Scenic Route. Pike Mountain Scenic Overlook provides views of much of the area, with an interpretive site accessible to wheel chairs and walking aids. The Fifth Fork Rock Creek and Third Fork Rock Creek Inventoried Roadless Areas comprise an estimated 33 percent of the management area.

Air Quality - This management area lies within Montana/Idaho Airshed ID-25 and in Twin Falls and Cassia Counties. Particulate matter is the primary pollutant of concern related to Forest management. The closest ambient air monitor is located in Twin Falls. It is used to obtain current background levels, trends, and seasonal patterns of particulate matter. The Jarbidge

Wilderness in Nevada is the only Class I area within 100 kilometers. The IMPROVE monitoring site has been in operation since 1988 and provides trend and visibility data for this Class I area.

Between 1995 and 1999, emission trends in Twin Falls County improved for PM 10 and 2.5. In Cassia County, only the PM 10 trend indicated improvement; the PM 2.5 trend was constant. The most common source of particulate matter in the counties was fugitive dust from unpaved roads and agricultural activities such as tilling. In addition to Forest management activities, crop residue and ditch burning may contribute to particulate matter emissions. The amount of agricultural-related burning was among the highest in the state, with Twin Falls County burning nearly 15,000 acres and Cassia County burning over 22,500 acres. There were no point sources located within Cassia County, but Twin Falls County had point sources located near Twin Falls.

Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources – Elevations range from around 4,300 feet at the Forest boundary to 8,060 feet atop Monument Peak. Management Area 11 is predominantly in the Humboldt River High Plateau subsection, and the dominant landforms are fluvial mountains, plateaus and escarpments, and depositional lands. Slope gradients range from 40 to 70 percent on the fluvial mountains, 0 to 30 percent on the plateaus and depositional lands, to near vertical on the escarpments. Volcanic basalts and sedimentary materials dominate the surface geology. Soils generally have moderate surface erosion potential, and moderate productivity. Subwatershed vulnerability ratings range from low to moderate, with the majority being low (see table below). Geomorphic Integrity ratings for all subwatersheds are moderate (functioning at risk) (see table below). Localized areas have impacts from roads, livestock grazing, and dispersed recreation. Impacts include accelerated erosion, upland compaction, and stream bank and channel modification.

The management area is comprised of portions of five watersheds that drain northward into the Snake River Basin. The main streams in the area are Rock Creek and its tributaries, Dry Creek, McMullen Creek, and North Cottonwood Creek. Williams Reservoir on North Cottonwood Creek is the only large body of standing water in the area. Water Quality Integrity ratings for the subwatersheds vary from moderate (functioning at risk) to low (not functioning appropriately) (see table below). Localized areas have depleted stream flows from irrigation uses, and accelerated sediment and nutrients from roads, livestock grazing, and dispersed recreation. Three of the fourteen subwatersheds in this MA are listed as impaired water bodies under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. These subwatersheds are the Middle West Fork Dry Creek, McMullen Creek, and Fifth Fork Rock Creek. Pollutants of concern include bacteria, dissolved oxygen, flow alterations, nutrients, sedimentation, and/or temperature concerns. The entire management area is within a TMDL-assigned subbasin.

Subwatershed Vulnerability			Geomorphic Integrity			Water Quality Integrity			No. 303(d) Subs	No. Subs With TMDLs	No. Public Water System Subs
High	Mod.	Low	High	Mod.	Low	High	Mod.	Low			
0	4	10	0	14	0	0	7	7	3	14	0

Although this area historically had chinook salmon and steelhead, they currently do not occur due to dams along the Snake River. Area streams provide a good local fishery consisting of redband, brown, and Yellowstone cutthroat trout. Brook trout have also been planted in Rock Creek for a sports fishery. Strong local populations of native Yellowstone cutthroat trout occur

in the Cold Spring-Medley-Dry, East Fork Dry, and Middle and West Fork Dry Creek subwatersheds. Strong local populations of redband trout are found in the Harrington Fork-Little-Rock Creek, Third Fork Rock Creek, and Fourth Fork Rock Creek subwatersheds, with McMullen Creek supporting an isolated local population of redband trout. Fish habitat has some localized grazing impacts in headwater areas, and localized recreation impacts along heavily used portions of Rock Creek. Overall, aquatic habitat is functioning at risk in localized areas due to impacts from sedimentation and dewatering for irrigation. Native fish populations are at risk due to the presence of introduced fish species and habitat impacts described above. The East Fork Dry Creek, Middle West Fork Dry Creek subwatersheds have been identified as important to maintaining or restoring strong populations of native cutthroat trout. These subwatersheds are therefore high-priority areas for restoration.

Vegetation - Vegetation is naturally patchy in much of the management area, with islands of coniferous forest surrounded by sagebrush/grass communities. Lower and mid-elevations feature sagebrush/grass communities, and, to a lesser extent, stands of Utah juniper. North and east aspects support subalpine fir and aspen communities. Lodgepole pine occurs in frost pockets and cold air drainages. Sagebrush/grass, subalpine fir, and aspen dominate at mid to high elevations.

Around 80 percent of the management area is non-forested, or covered by grasslands, shrublands, meadows, rock, or water. Much of this area is comprised of the Mountain Big Sagebrush, Low Sage, and Basin Big Sage vegetation groups. The main forested vegetation groups are Persistent Lodgepole Pine (14 percent), Aspen (5 percent), and Pinyon-Juniper (1 percent).

The Mountain Big Sagebrush, Low Sage, and Basin Big Sage groups are not functioning properly in some areas due to frequent human-caused fire and livestock grazing impacts, which have altered structure and species composition. Fire is more frequent and at a larger scale than historic patterns. Sagebrush communities and bitterbrush are being replaced by cheatgrass and other introduced species that spread quickly with frequent fire disturbance. An estimated 5 percent of the area has been seeded with non-native grasses.

The Persistent Lodgepole Pine group is functioning at risk because fire exclusion has resulted in older, more decadent stands with more shade-tolerant subalpine fir and less early seral species, particularly lodgepole pine and aspen. Aspen is present in pure stands and mixed with subalpine fir and lodgepole pine; however, some stands are dying out or being replaced by conifers. Older aspen stands are not regenerating. Fire hazard is increasing in conifer stands due to increasing mortality from insect and disease infestations and fire exclusion. The Pinyon-Juniper group is functioning at risk due to fire exclusion and grazing impacts that have allowed older stands to dominate, with fewer younger trees and herbaceous plants than desirable.

Riparian vegetation is functioning at risk in localized areas due to grazing and dispersed recreation impacts, and fire exclusion. In some areas, introduced grasses and noxious weeds are replacing native plants. Cottonwood and willow communities are becoming old and decadent, and are not regenerating due to livestock grazing. Snag levels are likely below historic levels in areas with easy access due to fuelwood gathering.

Botanical Resources – Desert buckwheat, a current Region 4 Sensitive species, is found in this management area. No federally listed or proposed plant species are known to occur in the area, but potential habitat exists for Ute ladies'-tresses and slender moonwort. Ute ladies'-tresses, a Threatened species, may have moderate potential habitat in riparian/wetland areas from 1,000 to 7,000 feet. Slender moonwort, a Candidate species, may occur in moderate to higher elevation grasslands, meadows, and small openings in spruce and lodgepole pine.

Non-native Plants –Scotch thistle, Russian knapweed, diffuse knapweed, and whitetop occur in the management area, particularly along main travel ways. The main weed of concern is Scotch thistle, which currently occurs in small, scattered populations. The spread of cheatgrass is also a concern, particularly in areas that have recently burned. An estimated 26 percent of the area is highly susceptible to establishment and spread of noxious weeds and exotic plants.

Subwatersheds in the table below have an inherently high risk of weed establishment and spread from activities identified with a “yes” in the various activity columns. This risk is due to the amount of drainage area that is highly susceptible to noxious weed invasion and the relatively high level of exposure from those identified vectors or carriers of weed seed.

Subwatershed	Road-related Activities	Livestock Use	Timber Harvest	Trail Use	ATV Off-Road Use
Cold Spring	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Medley-Dry	Yes	No	No	Yes	No

Wildlife Resources - The sagebrush/grass communities provide sage grouse habitat. Most of the mule deer winter range occurs at lower elevations on BLM administered lands. The rim-rock canyons are home to California bighorn sheep, and offer potential peregrine falcon nesting habitat. Nesting and foraging habitats for goshawk, flammulated owl, and spotted bat—all Region 4 Sensitive species—are found in the mid-elevation forests, and high-elevation forests provide mule deer summer range. Other species present throughout the area include mountain lion, beaver, chukar, ruffed grouse, blue grouse, Hungarian partridge, golden eagle, long-eared owl, and a small population of elk. The area is within lynx habitat as identified in the Canadian Lynx Conservation Assessment and Strategy (2000). Several wildland fires have reduced the quality of winter range available for mule deer and sage grouse. Sage grouse populations have been declining. Terrestrial habitat is functioning at risk in many areas due primarily to localized impacts to sage grouse and deer habitat from frequent human-caused fires and the spread of cheat grass. Although bighorn sheep habitat is present, populations are believed to be declining due to disease transmission from domestic sheep and losses from predation. The level of human disturbance is moderate, and habitat fragmentation from roads, development, and fire is moderate.

Recreation Resources - Management Area 11 offers year-round recreation opportunities, including alpine and Nordic skiing, camping, hunting, fishing, horseback riding, off-road vehicle use, and mountain biking. Most use is concentrated along the Rock Canyon Road corridor that has the Magic Mountain Ski Area, the Deadline Summer Home Area, and numerous campgrounds, picnic areas, and trailheads. The Ross Falls, Rimview, and the Eagle Interpretive Trails receive heavy use. Overall use has significantly increased in the last five years. Increased use of all types has also increased law enforcement concerns. Most of the users come from the Magic Valley (Twin Falls, Rupert, Burley). Key travel corridors are managed for visual

sensitivity. Most of the trails in the area are open to some form of motorized use. The area is in Idaho Fish and Game Management Unit 54. Recreation special uses in this area include the Deadline recreation residence tract, the Magic Mountain Ski Area, one mountain lion hunting outfitter and guide operation, one dog sledding outfitter and guide, and many permits for large group gatherings.

Cultural Resources - Cultural themes in this area include prehistoric, Civilian Conservation Corps, recreation, and Forest Service Administration. Prehistorically, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe and their ancestors used these drainages extensively. There is a high site density of mostly lithic scatters. Rock Creek and Snake River anadromous fish runs were also an important resource used seasonally, enhancing the attraction of the South Hills in general. A distinctive black and red ignimbrite material occurs naturally over much of the area, resulting in numerous quarry sites, with nearby hunting and camping related lithic scatter sites. Historically, the CCC contributed to recreation and administration projects such as the Magic Mountain Ski Area, campgrounds, roads, and trails.

Timberland Resources - Of the estimated 12,800 tentatively suited acres in this management area, 9,400 acres have been identified as being suited timberlands, or appropriate for timber production. This represents about 7 percent of the Forest's suited timberland acres. The suited timberland acres are found in MPCs 4.2 and 6.1, as shown on the map displaying the MPCs for this management area. Lands within MPC 4.1c are identified as not suited for timber production.

Forest management practices include small sales, precommercial thinning, reforestation of commercial and recreation sites, aspen enhancement, wildland fire fuels reduction, and vegetation management plans for developed recreation sites. Forest products such as fuelwood, posts, poles, and Christmas trees are also collected in designated areas. Harvest practices have reduced the risk of fire, insects, and disease, enhanced visual quality by increasing the aspen component, and developed structural diversity in the conifer component.

Rangeland Resources - The area contains all or portions of two cattle and two sheep allotments. The area provides an estimated 71,100 acres of capable rangeland, which represents about 13 percent of capable rangeland on the Forest. The amount of fencing and water developments is fairly high.

Mineral Resources - Current mining activity is low and consists mainly of recreational rock collecting and landscape rock quarrying. Potential for additional mineral development is considered low.

Fire Management - Wildfires have burned an estimated 40 percent of the management area in the last 15 years. These fires have occurred primarily in lower-elevation rangelands, and have contributed to cheat grass invasion, which has in turn altered fire regimes, degraded winter range, and other wildlife habitat.

There are no National Fire Plan communities in the area; however, Fifth Fork Rock Creek and Fourth Fork Rock Creek are considered wildland-urban interface subwatersheds due to private development within the Forest. Harrington Fork-Little Rock Creek, Third Fork Rock Creek, Fourth Fork Rock Creek, and Fifth Fork Rock Creek subwatersheds are considered to pose risks

to life and property from potential post-fire floods and debris flows. Historical fire regimes for the area are estimated to be 7 percent lethal and 93 percent mixed1 or 2. None of the area regimes has vegetation conditions that are highly departed from their historical range. However, 38 percent of the area regimes have vegetation conditions that are moderately departed from their historical range. Wildfire in these areas may result in larger patch sizes of high intensity or severity.

Lands and Special Uses – See the Recreation Resources section for recreational special uses.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

In addition to Forest-wide Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines that provide direction for all management areas, the following direction has been developed specifically for this area.

Resource/Program	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
MPC 4.1c Undeveloped Recreation: Maintain Unroaded Character with Allowance for Restoration Activities	General Standard	1101	Management actions—including mechanical vegetation treatments, salvage harvest, wildland fire use, prescribed fire, special use authorizations, and road maintenance—must be designed and implemented in a manner that would be consistent with the unroaded landscape in the temporary, short term, and long term. Exceptions to this standard are actions in the 4.1c road standard, below.
	Road Standard	1102	Road construction or reconstruction may only occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty.
	Fire Guideline	1103	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize tactics that minimize impacts of suppression activities on the unroaded landscape in the area.
MPC 4.2 Roaded Recreation Emphasis	Vegetation Guideline	1104	Vegetation management actions—including wildland fire use, prescribed fire, and mechanical treatments—may be used to maintain or restore desired vegetation and fuel conditions provided they do not prevent achievement of recreation resource objectives.
	Fire Guideline	1105	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts to recreation developments and investments.
MPC 6.1 Restoration and Maintenance Emphasis within Shrubland and Grassland Landscapes	Vegetation Guideline	1106	The full range of vegetation treatment activities may be used to restore or maintain desired vegetation and fuel conditions. The available vegetation treatment activities include wildland fire use. Salvage harvest may also occur.
	Road Guideline	1107	Road construction or reconstruction may occur where needed: a) To provide access related to reserved or outstanding rights, or b) To respond to statute or treaty, or c) To achieve restoration and maintenance objectives for vegetation, water quality, aquatic habitat, or terrestrial habitat; or d) To support management actions taken to reduce wildfire risks in wildland-urban interface areas; or e) To meet access and travel management objectives.
	Fire Guideline	1108	The full range of fire suppression strategies may be used to suppress wildfires. Emphasize strategies and tactics that minimize impacts to habitats, developments, and investments.

Resource/Program	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Soil, Water, Riparian, and Aquatic Resources	Objective	1109	Reduce impacts from grazing and roads on the local populations of cutthroat trout and other native salmonids within the East Fork Dry Creek and Middle West Fork Dry Creek subwatersheds.
	Objective	1110	Maintain or improve habitat to support brown, rainbow, and cutthroat trout fisheries in the Rock Creek drainage.
	Objective	1111	Maintain or improve habitat to support native redband trout in McMullen Creek.
	Objective	1112	Work with DEQ and EPA to validate the authenticity and causes for listing Fifth Fork Rock Creek, McMullen Creek, and West Fork Dry Creek 303(d) as impaired water bodies, and to determine any Forest Service management activities that may be contributing to the listings.
Vegetation	Objective	1113	Maintain and restore the early seral aspen and lodgepole pine desired components, as described in Appendix A, within the Persistent Lodgepole Pine vegetation group in the southern portion of the management area.
	Objective	1114	Restore and maintain desired size class structure and diversity in the Aspen vegetation group, as described in Appendix A, by promoting regeneration.
	Objective	1115	Restore managed lodgepole pine stands, creating a mosaic pattern of stands to achieve the desired conditions for species composition, tree size classes, and stand structure, as described in Appendix A.
	Objective	1116	Restore and maintain sagebrush and bitterbrush composition, age class, and canopy cover components (as described in Appendix A) in the Low Sage, Basin Big Sage, and Mountain Big Sagebrush vegetation groups, with emphasis on improving wildlife winter ranges and sage grouse habitat near the Forest Service boundary.
Botanical Resources	Objective	1117	Maintain and restore populations and occupied habitat of TEPCS species, including desert buckwheat, to contribute to their long-term viability of these species.
	Objective	1118	Emphasize reducing Scotch thistle within TEPCS plant actual and potential habitat.
	Guideline	1119	Coordinate grassland/shrubland restoration, prescribed fire, and non-native plant eradication efforts with a Forest botanist to minimize impacts to TEPCS plant species, occupied or potential habitat, and pollinators.
Non-native Plants	Objective	1120	Contain and reduce the density of existing cheatgrass infestations in recent fire areas at elevations below 6000 feet.
	Objective	1121	Control or contain Scotch thistle and other noxious weeds in the area.
Wildlife Resources	Objective	1122	Reduce the risk of disease transmission between big horn sheep and domestic sheep.
	Objective	1123	Reduce forage use conflicts between big game and livestock on big game winter range.
	Guideline	1124	Management actions in sage grouse habitat should be designed to meet the desired conditions for sagebrush, as described in Appendix A. Where greater than 40 percent of the sage grouse habitat in the management area has less than 10 percent canopy cover, management actions should be designed to maintain or restore canopy cover conditions.

Resource/Program	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description														
Recreation Resources	Objective	1125	Develop a dispersed/developed recreation management strategy for the Cassia Division that addresses law enforcement, ROS, site hardening, sanitation, noxious weeds and non-native plants, and travel management and closures.														
	Objective	1126	Manage the Rock Creek corridor for a Visual Quality Objective of Retention to maintain this high-value scenic resource.														
	Objective	1127	Reduce soil erosion and vegetation loss associated with off-road vehicles throughout the management area.														
	Objective	1128	Coordinate with Idaho Department of Fish and Game to provide non-motorized hunting opportunities in the Fifth Fork Rock Creek drainage.														
	Objective	1129	Develop more ATV trail opportunities and curtail inappropriate ATV use of single-track trails to provide motorized recreation opportunities while reducing ATV impacts on other resources.														
	Objective	1130	Continue to provide for winter recreation opportunities.														
	Objective	1131	Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from recreation and trail use in the Cold Springs and Medley-Dry subwatersheds. Methods to consider include annual weed inspection and treatment of trailheads and other high-use areas; and posting educational notices in these areas to inform the public of areas that are susceptible to weed invasion and measures they can take to help prevent weed establishment and spread.														
	Objective	1132	Achieve or maintain the following ROS strategy: <table><tr><th rowspan="2">ROS Class</th><th colspan="2">Percent of Mgt. Area</th></tr><tr><th>Summer</th><th>Winter</th></tr><tr><td>Semi-Primitive Motorized</td><td>39%</td><td>90%</td></tr><tr><td>Roaded Natural</td><td>19%</td><td>10%</td></tr><tr><td>Roaded Modified</td><td>42%</td><td>0%</td></tr></table> The above numbers reflect current travel regulations. These numbers may change as a result of future travel regulation planning	ROS Class	Percent of Mgt. Area		Summer	Winter	Semi-Primitive Motorized	39%	90%	Roaded Natural	19%	10%	Roaded Modified	42%	0%
	ROS Class	Percent of Mgt. Area															
		Summer	Winter														
	Semi-Primitive Motorized	39%	90%														
Roaded Natural	19%	10%															
Roaded Modified	42%	0%															
Objective	1133	Provide for continued use of recreation residences and the organizational camp within established tracts.															
Objective	1134	Re-survey recreation residence tracts to eliminate undeveloped lots.															
Guideline	1135	When re-surveying recreation residence tracts, one or two undeveloped lots may be left as “in lieu” lots.															
Guideline	1136	Consider potential effects to ski area expansion opportunities when evaluating proposed projects that are contiguous to the current permit boundary within two miles of the Magic Mountain Ski Area.															
Cultural Resources	Objective	1137	Implement the Cassia Division Interpretative Plan to enhance visitor education opportunities and recreation experiences.														
Timberland Resources	Objective	1138	Designate firewood gathering areas in order to maintain snag and large woody debris components for wildlife and aquatic habitat, nutrient cycling, and soil productivity.														
	Objective	1139	Provide for commercial harvest opportunities associated with restoration activities designed to maintain or restore desired vegetative conditions and to reduce insect and fire hazard in the southern half of the management area.														

Resource/Program	Direction	Number	Management Direction Description
Rangeland Resources	Objective	1140	Reduce conflicts between livestock grazing and recreation trail use on developed system trails through practices such as installing trail guards, coordinating livestock pasture rotations with peak recreational use, and improving fencing.
	Objective	1141	Whenever possible, modify developed springs and other water sources to restore natural free-flowing water and wet meadows in sage grouse habitat.
	Guideline	1142	When constructing or reconstructing fences, design or relocate them to avoid potential sage grouse mortality near leks.
	Guideline	1143	Within bighorn sheep emphasis areas, close sheep allotments as they become vacant, or convert them to cattle where appropriate. Do not convert cattle allotments to sheep allotments within occupied bighorn sheep habitat.
Fire Management	Objective	1144	Use prescribed and mechanical treatments to within and adjacent to wildland-urban interface areas to manage fuel loadings and reduce wildfire hazards. Develop and prioritize vegetation treatment plans for wildland-urban interface in coordination with local and tribal governments, agencies, and landowners.
	Objective	1145	Identify areas appropriate for Wildland Fire Use. Use wildland fire to restore or maintain vegetative desired conditions and to reduce fuel loadings.
	Objective	1146	Re-integrate prescribed and wildland fire use as appropriate in areas burned since 1980, such as Rock Creek Canyon, as vegetation recovers from disturbance.
	Guideline	1147	Coordinate with adjacent land managers to develop compatible wildfire suppression strategies and coordinated plans for wildland fire use.
Facilities and Roads	Objective	1148	<p>Evaluate and incorporate methods to help prevent weed establishment and spread from road management activities in the Cold Spring and Medley-Dry subwatersheds. Methods to consider include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ When decommissioning roads, treat weeds before roads are made impassable. ➤ Schedule road maintenance activities when weeds are least likely to be viable or spread. Blade from least to most infested sites. ➤ Consult or coordinate with the district noxious weed coordinator when scheduling road maintenance activities. ➤ Periodically inspect road systems and rights of way. ➤ Avoid accessing water for dust abatement through weed-infested sites, or utilize mitigation to minimize weed seed transport.